

**SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY
CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION**

P.O. Box 302
Paso Robles, CA 93447-0302

Mr. Al Wright, Executive Director
Wildlife Conservation Board
1807 13th Street, Suite 103
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Wright and Board Members:

The San Luis Obispo County Cattlemen's Association in this letter is addressing preliminary agenda item #19 for the February 19, 2004 meeting of the Wildlife Conservation Board.

The San Luis Obispo County Cattlemen's Association is strongly opposed to the acquisition of the northern Chinincas Ranch by Fish & Game. Enclosed is the resolution that states some of the reasons for opposing this proposed action.

Simply stated, the continuing loss of working cattle ranches in California erodes the opportunity for this industry to remain viable.

Please do not contribute to the mounting financial difficulties of our local schools and county government by taking additional property tax base off the assessor's tax roll.

The stated need or desire for public access to this property is a negligible reason at best for this specific ranch. This will be addressed in the public hearing at the meeting.

The citizens of California and San Luis Obispo County would be best served by action other than fee title acquisition of this ranch.

Sincerely,


Roger Miller, President